(c) the reasons for drastic differences being found in the consumer selling price of foodgrains, sugar, oil and vegetables during the current year as compared to the last year; and

(d) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check this rising trend of prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) During the last one year, prices of essential commodities such as wheat, atta, pulses and sugar registered an increase. Prices of onion have generally declined or remained steady in most parts of the country as compared to the prices prevailing a year ago. The reasons for higher prices of wheat in the current year are lower arrivals in the market, lower procurement and relatively lower stocks in the Central Pool. Prices of pulses have increased mainly due to limited carry forward of stock from previous year. Besides, increase in domestic production of pulses was only limited. High international prices of sugar, export obligations on sugar factories/importers under Advance Licence Scheme and shortage in neighbouring countries have, *inter-alia*, affected sentiments leading to higher prices of sugar in the country.

(d) Government has given high priority in containing the prices of essential commodities within reasonable levels. Prices of essential commodities are being closely monitored regularly. Besides, other steps being taken to check the rise in prices are higher releases of commodities like sugar and wheat, conversion of unsold/undespatched quantity of free sale sugar into levy sugar and import of wheat.

Supply of broken rice by FCI in Punjab

2934. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that broken rice purchased by the suppliers at the rate of Rs.2.50 per kg. is mixed with good quality of rice and supplied to the Food Corporation of India in Punjab;

(b) whether it is a fact that the suppliers make the payment to F.C.I. officials at the rate of Rs.4500 per truck and supply huge quantity to F.C.I.; and

(c) whether Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof and the number of officials of F.C.I. and other suppliers identified, so far, for the scandal and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) procures rice raw and parboiled as per the specifications prescribed by the Government of India which in respect of fair average quality (FAQ) allows 16% brokens in parboiled rice and 25% brokens in raw rice.

(b) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government or FCI.

(c) In view of above, question does not arise.

Permission to use Indian and National Emblem by business school in Hyderabad

2935. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the business school in Hyderabad have taken any permission to use the name of Indian and National Emblem; and

(b) if not, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Indian School of Business in Hyderabad has not sought any permission from the Government to use the name 'Indian' and 'National Emblem' under the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950.

(b) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), which is a statutory body under the Government of India, has directed 'The Indian School of Business' at Hyderabad to change its name to some other name.